

Fredericksburg, Va.
(AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER)
ONLY TRI-WEEKLY IN VIRGINIA.
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TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1901.

Weather forecast for Fredericksburg and vicinity.
Fair and colder; Tuesday.

AN EVIL WHICH SHOULD BE REMEDIED.

A political news item says that a resolution may be introduced in the Democratic caucus of the extra session of the Legislature declaring it to be the sense of that body that Judge Riley's successor shall be chosen from that grand division of the State from which the lamented jurist came. A member of the Legislature says that should this be done it would be promptly met by one declaring that it was the sense of the caucus not to elect any man to any office within the gift of the Legislature who was a member of that body.

This latter threat is aimed at Judge W. H. Mann. Of the four distinguished aspirants for our Supreme Bench, if THE FREE LANCE were privileged to declare a preference, that preference would be for Judge Mann, member of the Senate from Nottoway county, but if he were a thousand times nearer to us we should still applaud the sentiment which is expressed above in respect to election of members of the General Assembly to fill office outside of that body. The custom—for it has become such—has been greatly abused, particularly in recent years. It is of common report that many gentlemen seek election to the Legislature with the sole object in view of receiving some appointive office at the hands of that body, while not a few have been known to assert that they desired a term or two in the Legislature because even ex-members of that body were given preference over outsiders in official appointments. Cognizant of the unpopularity of this custom the Democratic caucus should adopt some such action as above suggested, and take steps to make permanent the prohibition. Probably the only way in which this could be accomplished would be for the Legislature to pass a bill declaring ineligible to public office within its gift a member of that body. Of course it could not extend the prohibition to ex-members, but the greater part of the evil would be remedied.

It is hardly to be expected that the suggestion of Mr. Grover Cleveland—as to making the Presidential term of office six years and making ineligible as his own successor the incumbent of the chair—will meet with favor at the hands of those politicians who ply elections as a trade, but it is most probable that by far the larger part of the citizens of this country would like to see his views adopted. The great menace to business of frequent elections is becoming more apparent every year, while the great detriment experienced in local communities over election and factional fights should commend the principle for adoption also in State and county elections. It is unlikely that the suggestion will be acted upon by Congress just now, as it emanates this time from a man who is without a party, and almost without friends in the national Congress, but the virtue of the plan must sooner or later appeal strongly to the unprejudiced, at which time there will be hopes of a reconstruction of election affairs.

The prison officials in Massachusetts have eliminated mince pies from the diet of convicts. The prohibition party can never win by working on people who are disfranchised.

Billy Bowlegs, the Indian chief, will entertain Senator Quay and Joseph Jefferson in Florida about the first of the coming century. —Knoxville Journal.

Mr. Quay seems to have a proper sympathy for crooked company.

It now behooves us, one and all, to enter upon the duties of the New Year with the full determination to do all the good in our power for our city, our country and our fellow-man.

It must have been a painful separation when Mr. Alvord was divorced from her \$150,000 of jewelry, supposed to be a part of her husband's pecuniations.

High authorities denied the business world the privilege of writing \$100—as meaning nothing—during the year gone, but '01 has at last come to their relief.

Many a poor fellow is now convinced that his knees need vaccination.

It was bad enough for those North Carolina newspaper men to elect Mr. Bryan a member of their Ananias club, but the unkindest cut was in saying that it was done "in recognition of the distinguished qualifications possessed by said statesman."

THAT national committee which is getting ready to shelve Mr. Bryan would be wise to put Chairman Jones in one of W. J.'s coat pockets during the process.

The American hen is said to be laying for the egg trust.—Orange Observer.

We saw no depreciation in the season's egg-nog results.

No DOUBT Aguinaldo is awaiting with anxious anxiety to scan the heights of oratory in the first issue of The Commoner.—Mr. Bryan's paper.

Now Alger dissellates Miles with embalmed beef and rawhides. The latter promises some returns of the compliment from cold storage.

Gov. ROOSEVELT has manifested no disposition to make it unpleasant for the Tammany ice trust. Today his opportunity passes forever.

FARWELL, "Fin desiecle," no more will you puzzle the long suffering compositor or pain the wearied eyes of the reading public.

WE WONDER how much money those seers are putting up on their predictions as to what the new century will bring forth!

MR. CROKER's crusade against vice seems to have caused Mark Hanna to speak in panegyric terms of the Salvation Army.

IT WAS a consuming question with the housewife how to preserve the carcass of the Xmas turkey for New Year's hash.

THE Chinese Boxers seem to have produced their Xmas illuminations from the bodies of native Christians.

A HAPPY new century to all. We will retract this, however, if it looks anything like a red flag.

THE Christmas stipend of the small boys was, in most instances, the "dollar of their daddies."

THE Cuban Constitutional Convention is a veritable heterogeneous political conglomeration.

GEN. FITZ LEE punctured that Cuban freedom bubble ruthlessly and in good bayonet fashion.

WHEN telegraph operators strike we are to infer that they can't live on tick any longer.

THERE is no "balm in Gilead" for the British in those South African war dispatches.

MR. BRYAN may discover that he can't run a newspaper on Democratic promises.

THE paramount question just now seems to be: What is hazing?

EXIT 1900—enter 1901.

POLITICAL.

The Virginia delegation is striving hard to prevent a reduction of the State's representation under the reapportionment.

Some of the Republican leaders are talking of calling a conference to discuss the matter of what is best for their party as regards the constitutional convention. Some are opposed to taking any action while others think the Republicans should make a fight to secure a good sized representation.

The terms of 30 Senators close March 4th and several of the States present interesting contests for the vacancies thus to occur. In the following cases successors have been chosen either by Legislatures or informally by caucuses: Oaffrey, of Louisiana; Chilton, of Texas; Lindsay, of Kentucky; Sullivan, of Mississippi, and Tarley, of Tennessee.

English Newspaper Taunts Us. The Manchester, England, Guardian prints an article commenting on the American government's scheme for settling the Cuban question. It says: "It is certain that if the Cubans had foreseen in what a practical sense they were to be made independent they would not have accepted the offer of American intervention. If the United States government were to say they made a mistake and would more or less honestly try to restore a republication to Cuba, though that would be a sorry course, it would be better than the present plan of giving the Cubans a stone and swearing it was bread."

Tried Them All. The proprietors of the leading dry goods store of Iowa (the Harris-Emery Company) volunteer the statement that they have found newspaper advertising highly profitable and satisfactory. They had tried all the advertising mediums—"billboards, street cars, programmes, banners, flashlights, etc., and the newspapers." The results were carefully noted and after a full experience the company decided to expend its entire advertising appropriation (\$30,000 a year) for newspaper space. "We use the newspapers exclusively," said Mr. Pettigill, the advertising manager, "not only for town, but also for mail order business and general out-of-town trade."

Miscalculating the Apple Crop. A few weeks ago the apple crop of the United States was estimated at a large one, but in the past ten days the estimate has been found to be wide of the mark, with the result of a jump in prices, after most of the crop has passed out of the hands of the growers into the hands of the big dealers. Hereafter apple-growers will be a little slower in accepting the figure on the crop that comes from the same sources as this year.—Staunton News.

Plot to Kill Americans. A story comes from Davao, Philippines, of an extensive massacre of enlisted men during church service. A young girl in love with one of the Americans betrayed the plot.

VIRGINIA NEWS.
Vester Griffin, murderer of Georgia King, was hanged at Danville Friday.
Pension issued in Washington: Moore Cookrell, Northumberland county, \$6.
A few days ago a negro youth was shot through the body by another negro in Louisa county.
Mr. Charles Farquhar's dwelling, in Prince William county, was burned last week. No insurance.
Gov. Tyler has reappointed Hon. G. W. Koiner Commissioner of Agriculture of Virginia for the term of two years.

Gov. Tyler is being talked of for president of Washington and Lee University, to succeed Hon. Wm. L. Wilson.

Mr. Geo. O. Koonce has sold the Zeller farm in Prince William county, consisting of 206 acres, for \$3,500. The purchaser, Mr. Robt. G. Bailey, is from Montana.

Judge Garrett opened the forty-first anniversary of the meeting of the Middlesex County Court at Saluda, Wednesday. Prior to 1852 court had met at Urbana over 130 years.

In all probability there will be five Farmers' Institutes held this year in the First District—one each in Fredericksburg, Tappahannock, Urbana, Kilmarnock and on the Eastern Shore.

At the State Veterinary Medical Association in Richmond the attendance was large. The most interesting topic discussed was that of a case of reported pneumonia contracted by a man from a horse.

Rev. J. T. Mastin, financial agent of the Methodist Orphanage of Virginia, is in Richmond, soliciting funds for the new orphanage. He will remain there until February 1st, and hopes by that time to raise \$30,000.

In the case of Prof. J. O. Beahm, convicted at Manassas on the charge of betraying a young girl, and sentenced to five years in the penitentiary, the verdict has been set aside and a new trial granted by the Supreme Court of Appeals.

Dr. W. H. Kirk, of Pennsylvania, received a fine Virginia turkey from Mr. Wm. H. Clemens, of Leesburg, and the bird graced the Doctor's board on Christmas day. The Doctor is of the opinion that the Virginia turkey is the finest he ever ate.

Judge Nicol, at Manassas, decided the case of Uroby and Lieb vs. Charles S. Hinchman and others in favor of the defendants. This suit was instituted for the specific performance of a contract for a purchase of all the bonds and ninety per cent of the stock of the W. A. & F. O. Ry. Co., for the sum of about \$100,000.

Miss Julia Page, daughter of Mr. Joseph Page, of Taylorsville, Hanover county, recently returned home from a visit to West Virginia, where her brothers have been ill of smallpox. Thursday, while assisting in the decorating of Taylorsville Church, where were present a number of people, she broke out with the disease.

Ben Stokes (colored), who drove the mail from Gloucester Point to Gloucester Courthouse for a number of years, was stricken with heart failure Wednesday on the road and died Friday, aged 75 years. He was highly respected, and was a reliable. Before the war he belonged to George Phillips, of Gloucester Point. He was a staunch Democrat.

The store house of Mr. O. Danne, at Trevilian's, in Louisa county, was broken into last week, the safe was blown open and the burglars got \$250. A stranger, who is described as being about forty years old and red-whiskered, was hanging around the station nearly all day and it is thought he was the thief. Mr. Danne offers \$100 reward for the man's arrest.

The tenth annual convention of the Southern Educational association closed in Richmond Friday. The convention was a success. Much attention was devoted to the discussion of the education of the negro. Many of the able educators of the South participated in the meeting. Industrial training was declared to be the most beneficial thing for the colored man, as the educating of him had been a failure.

Mr. A. W. Armstrong, attorney for the Virginia Automobile Company, has served notice that that company will apply to the county court of Prince William county on January 7, for the appointment of five freeholders as commissioners to ascertain and report what will be a just compensation for such land as the said company desires to acquire in that county for its purposes. It is understood that the automobile company will erect its manufacturing plant near Occoquan and use the fine water power there to run the machinery.

Detective John T. Hall has completed a murder case upon which he has been working for twenty-two years. In the penitentiary is a negro, one of whose names is Henry Brown, who but recently "went up" to serve a term of years for charges, among them attempt to take the life of Policeman E. O. "Pop" Tate. Detective Hall says Brown is one of the three men who are in May, 1878, broke into the store house of A. V. Henley, in Goodland house of A. V. Henley, and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Drummard. Mrs. Drummard was almost instantly killed and Henley died some years after the affair, it was said from the effects of the wound. The detective is confident that he has evidence that will convict Brown of firing the shot that ended the life of Mrs. Drummard.

Another Catch Penny Scheme. Alfred Harmsworth, editor and proprietor of the London Daily Mail, has consented to take entire charge, for one day only, of the New York World, to illustrate his ideas of what the twentieth century newspaper should be.

To-day's edition of the World will be under Mr. Harmsworth's sole direction—new in form, size, style and contents. It is said that Mr. Joseph Pulitzer personally offered to give \$50,000 to any charity Mr. Harmsworth might designate. If Mr. Harmsworth could successfully illustrate his novel ideas of twentieth century journalism.

The Trusts Moving Eastward. The exodus of the Trusts from the West to the East continues. As a rule they establish their headquarters in New York. The Tribune declares "they rent whole floors in the tallest skyscrapers in the metropolis, and bring with them legions of clerks, book-keepers, stenographers, typewriters and office boys." In New York they have the facilities of speculation offered by Wall street and of legislation to be readily obtained in New Jersey—that land of the "trusts" and refuge upon which they may look from their skyscraper offices and which they may reach by ready rapid transit.—Phil Record.

One of the most frequent uses to which the telephone is put by French country subscribers is that of an alarm to wake them in the morning. Those who wish to be aroused at a given hour have only to advise the telephone administration the night before of the hour at which they wish to be rung up.

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We Sell No Christmas Goods,
But when you want Galvanized Barbed Wire,
Wire Nails, Cut Nails or Horse Shoes
GIVE US A CALL.
Headquarters For the
Best Plow==OLIVER CHILLED.
Decker & Alrich.

GENERAL NEWS.

Many insurgents are being captured in the Philippines.
It is thought the Columbian revolution is about ended.
Gen. Botha says the war in South Africa will last for years.
Six men were killed and twelve wounded in a Kentucky feud.
California's trade with the Philippine Islands amounts, it is said, to \$2,500,000 a month.

President McKinley ascended the Washington Monument Thursday for the first time.
The coal trust has been accomplished. The plan is to free the North American Company the joint selling agent.
Every county in the State of Ohio has an agricultural society, and every such society holds a county fair annually.

Now again we have the lengthening of the days, the winter solstice being behind us, and "the day lengthens the cold strengthens."

Rev. Joseph E. Martin, formerly of Virginia, who was one of the officiating ministers at the funeral of Jefferson Davis, died in Mississippi.

Mrs. Lulu O. Jenkins, of Chicago, has been awarded \$4,000 damages for the lynching of her husband in Ripley county, Indiana, three years ago.

It is estimated that if the Army Reorganization bill be passed nearly 700 officers will be appointed from the volunteer to the regular establishment.

Some of the nurses of the Bellevue Hospital, New York, are being held for the murder of a patient of that institution, caused from improper treatment.

Mr. Gubbay has been warned that unless he withdraws his reward of \$25,000 for the arrest of the men who kidnapped his son the boy will be shot. He refuses to cancel the reward.

A Manila dispatch says: The Fortieth Infantry have captured the town of Jemenez and a Filipino stronghold in the mountains. The captured town of Lung was taken and several Filipinos killed.

The Boers have taken Helvetia. They killed and wounded 60 and took 200 British prisoners. Commenting upon the dispatch, the Daily Mail calls upon the government to send out at least 50,000 additional men.

New York city is in the midst of a small-pox scare, and vaccination is being urged. The fairs on the streets are selling round white medals two inches wide, bearing in staring letters the words: "I've been Ouch! Don't touch."

It is said that the Democratic executive committee will probably be called to meet in Washington some time in January. The deliberate purpose of the gathering will be to select Mr. Bryan as a possible Democratic Presidential nominee in 1904.

The fear that wild game would be exterminated from the Pacific coast has been dispelled by the discovery that all kinds of wild animals are flocking there, seeking refuge in the forest reservations, and they are said to be multiplying rapidly.

Gov. Roosevelt has declined to grant the application for extradition of John D. Rockefeller and other officers of the Standard Oil Company to the Standard Oil Company, Texas Anti-Trust law pending against them in the court of that State.

Sam McDonald, of Steubenville, O., the slayer of Epaphroditus, of Cleveland, O., auditor for the War Department, died last week at the Emergency Hospital in Washington. McDonald was determined to die. He resisted every effort of the physicians to restore him to health and his death resulted from exhaustion, brought on by starvation. For one week he has been fighting life and succeeded in relieving himself of all the medicine and nourishment given him.

Virginia Governorship. The weight of opinion in the Virginia colony in Washington is that the next governor of the Dominion will be Claude A. Swanson, Representative in Congress from the Fifth district of Virginia. There are three avowed and conspicuous candidates for the distinguished office. They are Mr. Swanson, Mr. J. Taylor Ellison, chairman of the State central democratic committee, and the attorney-general of Virginia, Mr. Montague. Each has entered upon his canvass, and the lines between their partisans are already quite sharply defined.

Mr. Swanson's strength is scattered. It is said throughout northern Virginia but is overwhelming in the Fourth and Fifth districts.

Mr. Ellison's strength, it is said, is greatest in the Third district, of which Richmond and Manchester are the center, and Mr. Montague's strength is expected to be most marked in the First, or Fredericksburg district. In the remaining districts of the State neither candidate has any particular advantage unless it be in the Eighth, where Mr. Ellison, prestige appears to be greatest.

The Virginia delegation in Congress espouses the cause of Mr. Swanson, with the exceptions of Representative Lamb, who is an Ellison man, and Representative Jones, who stands for Mr. Montague. Mr. Rixey is placed by some in the doubtful column. This leaves for Mr. Swanson Senator Daniel and Martin and Representatives Lanier, Coker, Hay, Rhea and Quarles.—Washington Times.

Wm. J. Bryan Was Elected. Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 28.—At a meeting of the Ananias Club, Raleigh's newspapermen's association, Hon. William J. Bryan, of Nebraska, editor of "The Commoner," was elected to honorary membership in the club. The following resolution was adopted: "Whereas the Raleigh Ananias Club holds with pleasure the advent into journalism of the Hon. William Jennings Bryan, of Nebraska, in recognition of the distinguished qualifications possessed by said statesman, be it resolved that the secretary of the Raleigh Ananias Club be and is hereby instructed to formally notify the Hon. Wm. Jennings Bryan of his election upon this day as the first honorary member of the said Ananias Club, with all rights and privileges of a membership."

MARRIAGES.

Licensed in Baltimore to marry: Arthur O. Brown, Montross, Va., and Nanie L. Pusey.
Mr. Edward P. Simpkins and Miss Virgie E. Wright, of Hanover county, were married last week by Rev. O. H. Ryland.

Captain John Arrington and Miss Ella Almond, both of Gloucester county, were married last week, Rev. J. S. Wallace officiating.

Mr. George Owens and Miss Ella Williams, of Mathews county, were married Christmas night. The Rev. O. M. Yerger, performed the ceremony.

Licensed in Washington to marry: Lannon W. Bowling and Ruth A. Baldwin, both of Spotsylvania county; Oscar Williams, of Fredericksburg, Va., and Mary Grimes, of Caroline county, the latter colored.

At the Methodist parsonage in Leesburg, by Rev. J. H. Light, on Wednesday, Dec. 26th, 1900, Mr. George Suduth and Miss Ethel V. Kirk, and Mr. Wm. Henry Kearns and Miss Lillie Germans, all of Loudoun.

Mr. A. L. Clark and Miss Fronie Herring were married Sunday, Dec. 16th at the home of Mr. A. Sorrell, near Granite Springs, Spotsylvania county. The attendants were: Miss Theo. Harris with Mr. Ellis Young, Miss Mattie Taylor with Dr. Dennis Kendig, Miss Lily Biscoe with Mr. Hansford Massey, Miss Mattie Biscoe with Mr. Robbie Tindler.

CHINA.

The Chinese plenipotentiaries have been ordered to sign the preliminary joint note, and have notified the foreign envoys to that effect.

Minister Conger, it is said, will soon resign his position as the diplomatic representative of the United States at the Chinese capital. He feels very acutely the criticisms that have been made by the State Department regarding his conduct of the negotiations during the preparation of the note containing the demands of the Powers upon China. He has been charged by the department with dullness of apprehension, lack of good judgment, and with having allowed his personal feelings to blind him to the higher dictates of humanity and good government. He has been charged with insisting upon the imposition of impossible terms upon China, in joining in the demand for the heads of Prince Tuan and Gen. Tang Fuh Hsiang and other high princes and mandarins suspected of inciting Boxer riots.

New Jurors Drawn. Petit jury drawn for the U. S. Circuit and District Court at Alexandria (include): Joseph Williams, Weedonville; Robert H. Stubbs, Glenn's; B. Upton, Urbana; J. W. Barritt, Free Shadr; Albert Robinson, West Point; J. G. Cannon, Miller's; James West, King William; A. G. Ware, West Point; Harvey D. Pynes, Stevensville, and R. F. Ritchie, Kumford.

Grand jury for the same court include: W. O. Shackelford, Brandy Station; R. H. James, Beulahville; W. G. Newton, Norman; John O. Harris, Culpeper; T. B. Whit, Beulahville, A. O. Walker, Walkerton; A. B. Johnson, Warsaw, and A. J. A. Aumack, Tappahannock.

Fredericksburg Cereal Mills HAS
Corn and Corn Meal,
Ear Corn Chop,
Cracked Corn and Chop
FOR SALE.
J. S. WOODS.

Going Out of the Retail Business!
SMITH & COGHILL.
Having decided to do an Exclusively Wholesale business, we will close out
Our Entire Retail Department for Cash
in the next 60 days at
Unprecedentedly Low Prices
This is one of the Largest Retail Departments in the South and includes
Boots, Shoes, Hats and Caps
of every description and endless variety. We mean what we say. This is no catch penny sale, and all buyers will materially consult their pocket-books by coming to see the stock and making purchases.

Smith & Coghill
ADAMS'S BOOK STORE.

COLDER NOW!
COLDER WEATHER YET TO COME.
Wraps You Must Have.

C. W. JONES
Is fixed to supply the want at almost ridiculous prices. For instance—
Black Cloth Double Capes, fur and hand trimmed, regular \$1.50 grade, only..... **.98c.**
Black Cloth, Double Capes, regular \$2.25 grade, at..... **1.45**
Black Cloth, Double Capes, regular \$3.50 grade, our price..... **2.45**
Black Astrachan Capes, good long ones fur trimmed around collar, cheap at \$2.50. Our price..... **1.45**
Black Astrachan Capes, fur trimmed around collar and down both sides of front, would be cheap at \$2.95. Our price for these is..... **1.75**
PLUSH CAPES.
Plain Plush Capes at \$1.50. Braided Plush Capes at \$1.75.
Braided Silk Plush Capes, double lined, cheap at \$4.50. Our price 3-25
Real Silk Plush Capes, plain goods, but good quality, worth \$4.50. Our price..... **3.50**
A lot of Handsomely Braided Plush Capes, good double lined, worth \$6.00. Our price 4.50
A lot of Extra Long Silk Plush Capes at \$6.75, 7.25 and 8.50 Each.
JACKETS.
One lot of black jackets at \$2.45 each. One lot of black jackets at \$3.50 each. One lot of black jackets, lined all through with good mercurized satteen. Our speciality, at \$5.00. One lot extra good quality black jackets at \$7.25
Tan and Castor Jackets.
One lot, lined all through, at \$5.50. These are extra good for the price. One lot extra good Castor Jackets, cheap at \$9.50. Our price \$7.25. Lots of better goods if you want them, either black or colored jackets.
GOLF CAPES.
These very stylish, useful wraps are here in good styles, made with the yoke or hood, at
4.39, 5.50, 7.00.
See Them.

This is to be a great Wrap Sale from now until Christmas. Get your share.
C. W. JONES'
Department Store,
Fredericksburg, Va.

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR J. T. LOWERY'S AD.

FOR CHRISTMAS!
Useful and Acceptable Presents
OPEN EVERY NIGHT.

The T. N. Brent Store.
THEY ALL KNOW IT!
The cheapest place in the city to buy your Cook Stoves. Price very low. No combination or trust on them.
Again—Roofing! Roofing! Roofing! All Tools furnished to put on roofs with to be returned when through. The price is cheaper than Shingles or Slate. Good quality can't be beat. Consult me before you buy.
R. L. STONE 203 Commerce St., Fredericksburg, V.

SHOE ECONOMY
Is good reliable Footwear, at the lowest possible cost. COME TO US.
Ladies' Oil Grain Solid Sensible Shoes at \$1.25, Ladies' Seal Grain Seamless Lace Shoes at \$1.35, Ladies' Sample Shoes in Kangaroo Calif. Glove Grain and Oil Grain at \$1.25, Men's All Solid, very best Flesh Split Boots, solid as can be made, at \$2.00, Men's First Quality Veal Kip at \$2.75, Misses Oil Grain School Shoes at \$1.15, Children's 9 to 12 at 75 cents.
BRULLE & TIMBERLAKE, 921 Main S
Opposite Market Entrance.

FOR 1901!
WE PROMISE TO USE EVERY EFFORT TO GIVE FIRST CLASS SERVICE. WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE PATRONAGE ACCORDED US IN 1900.